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FREE (OMORI)

Toronto's Anarchist Bi-Weekly

Ecomedia
BULLETIN

ECOMEDIA c/o P.O. Box 915 Station F Toronto Ontario, M4Y 2N9

KEEP MOVING,
KEEP CHANGING

It's peaceful, but does it move?

True to form, the **peace movement** held three demonstrations here in Toronto last week to protest the latest **cruise missile test**. The time has come for the peace movement to ask not only whether such demonstrations are futile, but whether they in fact are doing *more harm than good.* This is particularly necessary before a lot of energy is spent planning largescale rallies to coincide with the summit talks in Toronto this June.

By protesting, we give credence to the *myth* that our politicians could stop the arms race if they wanted to. Of course they can't, because this would annoy the **corporations** who profit from Third World exploitation which the state justifies in terms of cold war requirements, and who control the state by funding political parties.

Since its inception, the Canadian peace movement has destroyed any chance of being effective by its misguided strategy of trying to maximize support around single issues apt to appeal to the lowest common denominator of support (no nuclear arms for Canada, end complicity in Viet Nam, refuse the cruise). This has prevented it from developing the analysis necessary to realize that **peace is incompatible with the existing social system**, and doomed it to **fighting symptoms** rather than the causes of the ever expanding corporate- war machine. Instead of spending its energy in kneejerk reaction to every militaristic move of the state, the movement should undertake radical public education in a decentralized fashion appropriate to our means, organize to take back control of our daily lives, and help develop an alternative society whose members are in a position to seriously resist the state by not paying taxes, and capable of surviving self-sufficiently.

Ecomedia #18"s

"Problem That Cannot Be Ignored"

The U.S.A.'s current war against **Nicaragua** vividly demonstrates the relationship between **corporate economic control** and **environmental deterioration**. The U.S. financed Contras have made environmentalists a major target, killing over fifty and kidnapping scores more (at least one victim was an American, who if he paid income tax before going to Nicaragua could be said to have financed his own murder). Destruction of areas which the Sandinista government is attempting to reforest is also a top priority of the Contras.

In 1909 the U.S.A. took over Nicaragua *to prevent the government from regulating access to natural resources*; U.S. marines

(continued on back page)

RAPE CRISIS CRISIS

The Toronto Rape Crisis Centre is in desperate need of funds to continue operations during the next two months. The TRCC is dependent upon donations as they recieve no permanent funding from any source. This is a vital service and one we must support in any way possible.

Please send donations to:
Toronto Rape Crisis Centre,
POB 6597 Stn A, Toronto, M5W 1X4

Special Feature: ECOMEDIA BARCELONA

Squatting News

Squatting in Spain is quite active these days among the youth and anarchist movements. But, as is usual with squatters, they are continually harrassed and forcibly evicted by authorities. A squatted anarchist centre in Barcelona continues to serve the community despite recent harrassment. In November they had two photo shows including one on political prisoners. On November 12, the police ordered the squatters to register themselves at the police station, or face eviction. To counter this, the squatters organized 90 people to register themselves as living there, hoping to tie up the bureaucracy.

Also in Barcelona, in November, three men and a womyn were evicted from their home, and they immediately set up camp outside the local town hall. On November 4, supporters gathered there to set up a permanent picket, and on November 15, over 150 people, mostly from the anarchist centres, protested at the town hall about the lack of housing and community centres for youth. Demonstrations in Europe are generally more active than what you'll find on the streets of North America, so after showing up at the town hall, painting the doorways and blocking a highway for a while, the demo marched off, did some graffiti, and searched for a suitable property to squat for a centre. After finding an empty house, they cleaned it up, decorated, cooked, and held a party. The following day, the new squat was used by the group "Co-ordination Against Oppression" for their meeting, **and is currently still occupied.**

Pirate Radio News

In Europe there are many pirate radio stations in operation, and one well known Spanish one, *Radio Pica*, came back on air in late December after a lengthy absence. *Radio Pica* had been closed since **massive police raids** last year closed down all pirates. On Dec. 19, *Radio Pica*, and a few other pirates, formed a group called *"Co-ordination of Free Radios"*, and called a public gathering in Barcelona which coincided with a pirate radio broadcast. About 500 people showed up with radios. The group is demanding space on the dial for **non- commercial** stations. Meanwhile, a court case *Radio Pica* initiated is still dragging on. They are suing the police for illegal **break and enter, vandalism,** and **theft** of all their equipment following the raidlast year. If the case is won, it could set a precedent and allow all the pirates *back on the air.*

Abortion Campaign News

In Spain, abortion can only be obtained in very few circumstances, like "proven" rape, and wimmin must go through a long, humiliating bureaucratic procedure. This has forced the formation of **clandestine abortion services,** and the feminist movement in Barcelona announced that they are performing their own secret abortions. On Nov. 6, the **Caspe Clinic** in Barcelona was raided by the National Police and was closed down. Two Dutch wimmin, **Tosca and Anna Valckx,** were arrested and held two days on suspicion of giving abortions. They were released without charge, although the police claim that the clinic had performed over 4000 abortions and had given the wimmin fake certificates to say that the abortions were done in Holland. While the two wimmin were held, feminist groups picketted the police station, and the following week 500 wimmin marched through the city, spray painting graffitti and demanding the right to **free legal abortions on demand.**

On the weekend of Nov. 25, the *Wimmin's Assembly of Iruna* mobilized people to protest the trials of wimmin who had had abortions, and 60 wimmin chained themselves in front of the court house.

Cop/Rapist Released

In *Badalona*, an industrial suburb of Barcelona, militant demonstrations were held to protest the freeing on bail of a *policeman*, who is twice accused of raping his neighbour at gunpoint. The cop's home was picketted, and the court was occupied by 15 wimmin, including the victim, who locked themselves in and demanded to present a *2000-name* petition calling for the cop's re-arrest. *The officer has not yet dared return to his home.*

Non-accidental Death of an Anarchist

In 1978, a **militant anarchist prisoner, Agustin Rueda**, was murdered by the authorities of the prison he was held in. On Dec. 9, 1987, *nine years later*, the accused are finally being brought to trial in the Supreme Court in Madrid. A bit of background on the case: Agustin Rueda, together with a group of anarchists, were caught with explosives in October 1977 by the *Civil Guard*. He was tried and convicted and sent to Carabanchel Prison in Madrid, where the **torture** of prisoners is **still common practice**. On March 13, 1978, after the death of General Franco, Agustin was tortured to death. The case against his murderers is being brought to trial after lengthy public pressure, partially initiated by the **anarcho-syndicalist union CNT-AIT**. Standing accused are the governor of the prison, his deputy and seven guards and medical staff. At the beginning of the trial, a forensic scientist testified that Agustin had suffered a *"prolonged, intensive and technical beating"*. Numerous marks and bruises were found all over his body, and the immediate cause of death was put as probably **traumatic shock**. The Governor, Eduardo Cantos, had ordered the interrogation of eight prisoners, including Agustin, after an escape tunnel had been discovered. Although technically illegal, torture was still practised as a legacy of the fascist era. After his beating, Agustin Rueda was visited by medical staff, but was not transferred to the infirmary, to cover up the severe beating. So now the trial continues, with the accused either trying to cover up for themselves or trying to implicate each other. In the final analysis, it's clear that the murderer of Agustin Rueda is *the State tself.*

LUBICON LAKE BENEFIT

Chief Bernard Ominayak, and Band Advisor Fred Lennarson will be speaking on the struggle of the Lubicon Cree at the OCA Auditorium,100 McCaul St., January 29, at 7pm. As well, the video, "Our Land, Our Life" by Ed Bianchi will be shown. The evening is rounded off by several musical performances. Admission by donation. For more information call CASNP at 964-0169.

POLICE CRACKDOWN IN MALAYSIA

The mainstream press has been all but silent about the four month long police crackdown on social and political activists in Malaysia. This is no small event, no vague "human rights violation". It is no less than **the biggest police crackdown on dissidents in Malaysian history.**

By **November of 1987**, a total of 98 **people** had been detained under the **Internal Security Act**, which was created to "deal with communists". The detainees are being **held without trial**, and still without access to a lawyer. They are being kept in small, dark cells without proper lighting or ventilation, in **solitary confinement**. Many have not been allowed to see family or friends. In fact, it is *not even known where the majority are being held.* With **interrogation** by *Special Branch police* personnel goning on continuously, and being kept in solitary confinement unable to speak to anyone, the prisoners must be undergoing *extreme physical*, and especially *psychological stress.*

The 98 prisoners were arrested under Section 73.1 of the Internal Security Act, which enables police officers to detain anyone they wish for an *initial period of 60 days.* After detaining a prisoner under harsh conditions, continuous interrogation and torture, for this period, the Home Affairs Minister can choose to sign an order detaining the person for a further *2 year period* . The 2 year period can be renewed *indefinately.* Under this law some individuals in Malaysia have been **detained without trial for up to 15 years.**

The Prime Minister of Malaysia, *Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohammed* has explained these detentions of both politicians and grass roots political activists as *necessary to prevent "race riots"* within the multi-ethnic state. But his government does not stop the repression there. **Three major newspapers have been banned**, and the remaining papers, all owned by government parties, are facing severe restrictions. . Freedom of assembly has also been suspended with the **banning of all public meetings and rallies**. Even procedings in Parliament which are critical of government are not allowed to be printed in the newspapers.

We extend solidarity to those who struggle in Malaysia - and to those who will find a way to fight the injustice. **An injury to one is an injury to all.**

"PROBLEM..." *Continued from front*

occupied the country directly from 1912 to 1933, and in 1934 the U.S.A. installed the Somoza dictatorship which ruled until 1979. In the Somoza period one U.S. corporation cut down *all* the coastal pines of northeast Nicaragua, **denuding** over 3000 square km, while another dumped 40 tonnes of **mercury** into Lake Managua (polluted water was found to cause 17% of all Nicaraguan deaths). By 1979 **pesticide runoff** from agriculture, **toxic chemical pollution** from lakeside industries and **untreated sewage** dumped from the capital city had vitrually killed Lake Managua. Many deaths were caused by soil and water contamination from *pesticides imported from the U.S.A.*

The Ortega government's models for responsible environmental protection, such as reducing use of pesticides, reforestation and redistribution of land (to keep dispossessed peasants from having to make further inroads into the tropical forests) are a major reason for the U.S.'s determination to destroy it. By contrast, the other Central American countries which remain under U.S. control are *encouraging* migration into the rainforest by dispossessed peasants *(one reason for the dispossessing being IMF demands that the land be converted from growing their food to producing export crops to pay off debts to U.S. banks).* Since deforestation could result in the **flooding of coastal regions** throughout the world (as the polar ice cap melts) and turning of **interior regions into deserts,** ***eventually everyone on the planet will suffer for the greed of the corporations who dictate U.S. policy.***

(for more information: article by Karliner and Faber in Green Action, February, 1987,. Updated by Utne Reader Jan-Feb 1988.)

UPDATE on Japanese political prisoner Katsuhisa Omori

OMORI'S SUPPORT GROUP RAIDED

On December 26, 1987, police officers of the Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) **invaded and searched** residences of eleven comrades of the Omori Support Group. This search was on the suspicion of helping Mr. Osasmu Maruoka, a Japan Red Army activist, to forge false passports. On the same day, they searched approximately *sixty places* in various parts of Japan. None of the persons searched has anything to do with the Japan Red Army. They are relief groups for other cases, groups working for the abolition of the death penalty, workers' groups active in San' ya skid row area, groups who are in solidarity with the Palestinian people, and nine anarchist activists.

Mr. Osamu Maruoka was arrested by MPD in November 1987, when he re-entered Japan.

The Police told newspapers and television stations they had searched supporters of the Japan Red Army. MPD also misinformed media that the Red Army was planning to hi-jack airliners,occupy Japanese embassies and businesses in various countries, and to take hostages to have Mr. Maruoka released. The security of Japanese embassies has been tightened.

MPD took away personal notebooks, letters, mailing lists from many places that they searched.

A campaign has been started to appeal that the said searches were unjust.

COMMUNICATION FROM OMORI

A Solidarity Message to Comrades Overseas:

The state power has decided that they pronounce a verdict/sentencing on me on Thursday, January 21, 1988.

They have absolutely no evidence to convict me. It's sure, however, that the state power who regards my thought to be a dangerous one will uphold the verdict by the Sapporo District Court and will again find me guilty and sentence me to death.

But I will never give in. I shall continue to fight to the bitter end toward the realization of a horizontal stateless society.

I send warm greetings of solidarity to our comrades overseas.

Katsuhisa Omori
December 28, 1987.